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**United States Patent** [19]  
**Wu et al.**

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[54] **APPARATUS FOR AND METHOD OF  
 DRIVING A CHOLESTERIC LIQUID  
 CRYSTAL FLAT PANEL DISPLAY**

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[57]

**ABSTRACT**

Driver apparatus and methods of driving at least a portion of a cholesteric liquid crystal ("CLC") panel to a state having a given reflectivity. One of the methods includes the steps of: (1) initially driving the portion to a nematic phase, (2) subsequently driving the portion to a cholesteric phase focal-conic state, the cholesteric phase focal-conic state providing a known reference state for subsequent driving of the portion and (3) thereafter driving the portion to the state having the given reflectivity.

60 Claims, 19 Drawing Sheets

